



Portland District

Lower Columbia Ecosystem Restoration

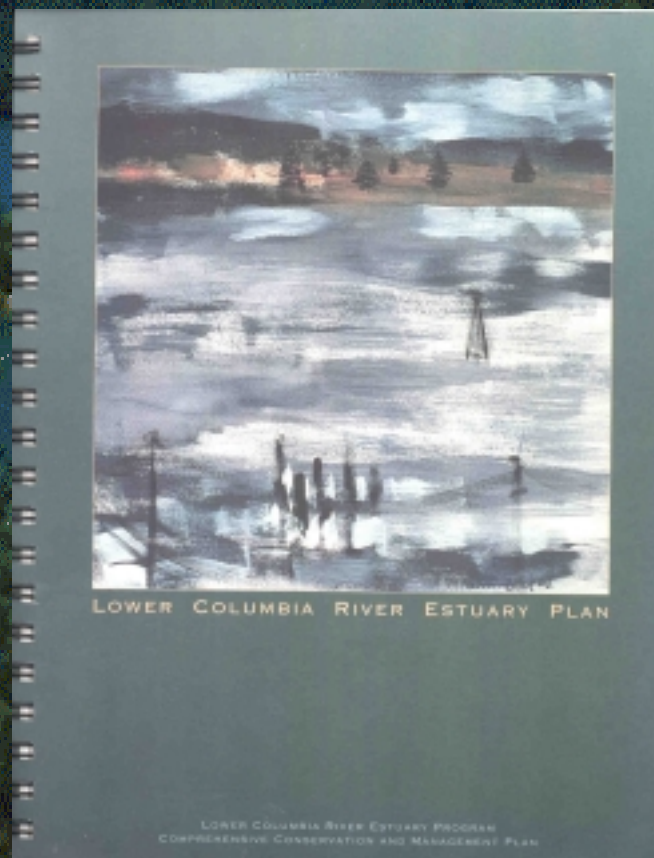


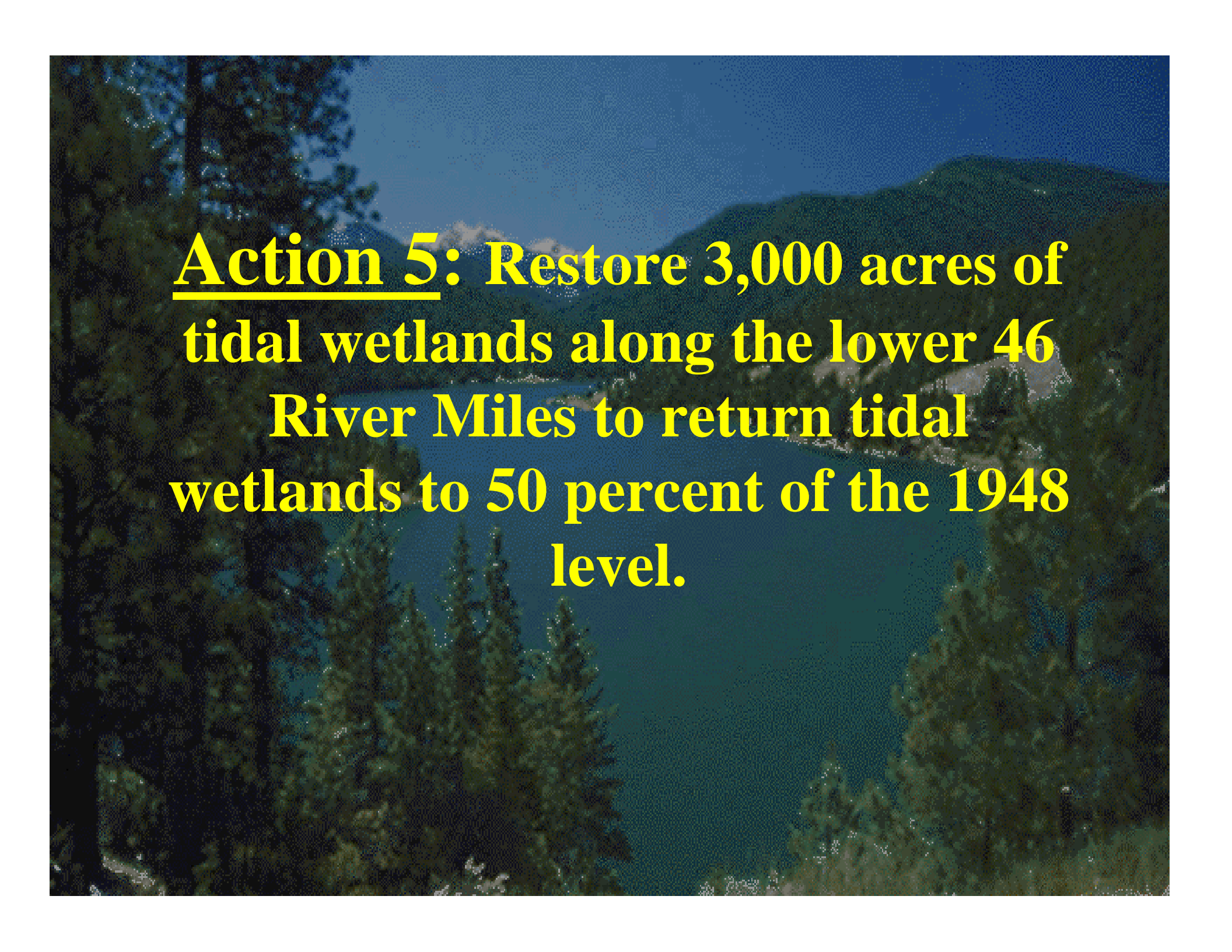


History

- Estuary Planning
- Relationship to FCRPS
- Authority Development
- What to do

Lower Columbia Estuary Program

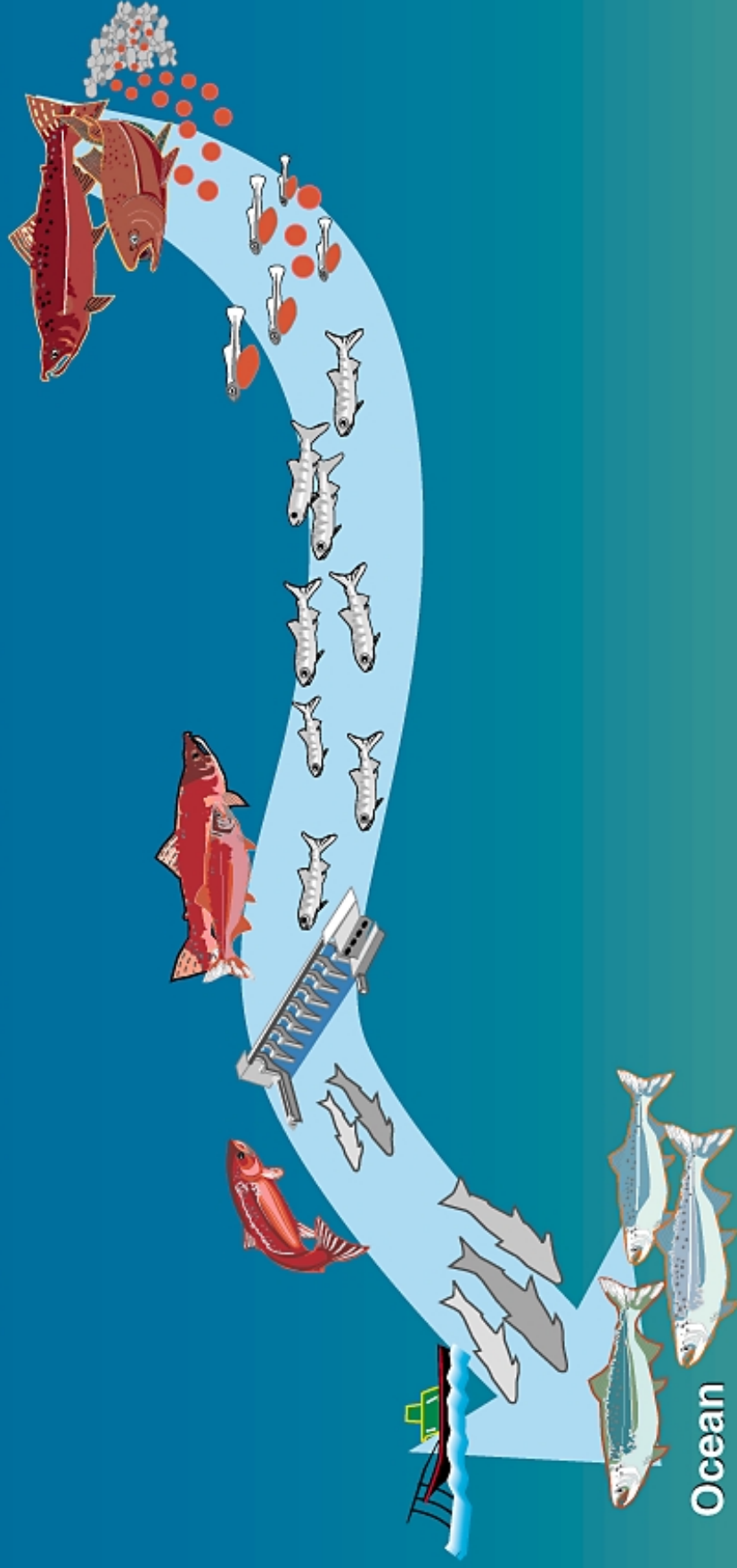


The background image is a scenic landscape photograph. It shows a wide river or estuary flowing through a lush, green forest. In the distance, there are rolling hills or mountains under a clear blue sky. The foreground is filled with the dark, dense foliage of evergreen trees, some of which are in sharp focus, creating a sense of depth. The overall tone is natural and serene.

**Action 5: Restore 3,000 acres of
tidal wetlands along the lower 46
River Miles to return tidal
wetlands to 50 percent of the 1948
level.**

Salmon Lifecycle

Streambeds



Ocean



Columbia River Fish Mitigation Program

- Hydro → All H
- CRI Model: Science, 3 NOV 2000
- 1999 WRDA §582



FCRPS Bi-Op (2000)

Action 160: The Corps and BPA working with LCREP, shall develop and implement an estuary restoration program with a goal of protecting and enhancing 10,000 acres of tidal wetlands and other key habitats over 10 years, beginning in 2001, to

The background of the slide is a photograph of a river winding through a lush, green forested valley. In the distance, rolling hills or mountains are visible under a clear sky. The text is overlaid on this image.

FCRPS Bi-Op (2000)

rebuild productivity for listed populations in the lower 46 River Miles of the Conservation and Management Plan through the Lower Columbia River Estuary Program (LCREP). The Federal agencies



FCRPS Bi-Op (2000)

strongly support the actions of this plan that contribute to salmon recovery and seek to expand on them. The following action items call on the Action Agencies, primarily the Corps and BPA, to play an important role in

FCRPS Bi-Op (2000)

estuary restoration efforts. The Corps is meant to play a lead role, with BPA primarily providing cost-share funding. The Corps and BPA actions are not meant to be fully coordinated with LCREP.



How?

- Studies – CRFM, others
- What – Workshop, July 2001
- New authority?



WRDA 2000 §536

Iron Triangle vs. Matrix Issues

Lower Columbia River Ecosystem Restoration, GI

- Reconnaissance Study identifying a Federal interest completed in August 2001
- Study area covers all areas west of the Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River
- FY 03 funding: \$300,000 (est. \$6M study)

Lower Columbia River Ecosystem Restoration, GI

Feasibility study purpose:

- To investigate and recommend appropriate solutions to accomplish ecosystem in the lower Columbia River and estuary, including wetland/riparian habitat restoration, stream and fisheries improvement, water quality and water-related infrastructure improvements.

Lower Columbia River Ecosystem Restoration, GI

Array of plans to be considered in the
feasibility study:

1. No Action
2. Breach Flood Control Levees
3. Removal/Placement of Dredge Material
Deposition Sites
4. Structural Modifications

Lower Columbia River Ecosystem Restoration, GI

Feasibility Study Status

- Project Delivery Team is scoping the Project Management Plan (PMP)
- Working with the states of WA and OR to sponsor the proposed \$6M study
- Attempting to have a Feasibility Cost-Sharing Agreement (FCSA) signed by Sept. 30, 2002

Lower Columbia, Sec. 536

FY 03 new start - \$2M (\$20M program)

Purpose: to carry out ecosystem restoration projects necessary to *protect, monitor and restore fish and wildlife habitat* based on recommendations made by the Lower Columbia River Estuary Program (LCREP).

Lower Columbia, Sec. 536

Desired outcome: A series of small fish and wildlife restoration projects fulfilling LCREP's RPA 159 and 160 and augmenting the comprehensive master plan generated by the GI study.

Lower Columbia, Sec. 536

Status

- Putting together a Project Delivery Team
- Selecting five high-priority projects from the LCREP list and existing CAP studies for an immediate FY03 start

Differences between the GI and Sec. 536

- The ongoing GI study is a comprehensive, longer-range approach for addressing water resource problems and opportunities for the Lower Columbia River as needed
- Section 536 is principally focused on fish and wildlife habitat as outlined by LCREP. Section 536 allows for immediate identification and construction of restoration projects.

Differences between the GI and Sec. 536

- The GI study is intended to provide an ecosystem-wide analysis of the estuary. These are parallel activities because an urgency exists to initiate habitat restoration projects especially to support salmon recovery.
- LCREP members support the concurrent activities of pursuing short-term projects under Section 536, while proceeding with the comprehensive study.